

### REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action mailed June 26, 2007 (the "Office Action") and the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review mailed September 6, 2007. Claims 1-17 are pending and rejected in this Application. Applicants have amended Claim 13. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case in view of the following remarks.

#### Section 103 Rejections

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,834,286 issued to Srinivasan, et al., ("*Srinivasan*") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0002955 issued to Gadbois ("*Gadbois*"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons stated below.

The Office Action rejects Claim 13 and contends that the limitations are disclosed by *Srinivasan* and *Gadbois*. Specifically, the Office Action contends that Claim 13 is not allowable because Claim 13 "requires that each attribute correspond to at least one object class. It does not require each attribute to correspond to a different object class." *See* Office Action, Pages 5-6. Although Applicants believe that Claim 13 as originally submitted is allowable, in order to advance prosecution of this Application, Applicants have amended Claim 13 to recite "defining a plurality of unique names for each of the plurality of attributes, each of the plurality of unique names corresponding to a **different** one of the plurality of object classes" (emphasis added). Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 13 is patentably distinguishable from *Srinivasan* and *Gadbois*. Claims 14-17 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 13. For at least the reasons above, Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 14-17 are patentably distinguishable from *Srinivasan* and *Gadbois*.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for use in a Web Services system that includes providing a Web Services Directory having object classes and attributes. Attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class are defined. An index based on the specific attribute types is generated.

The Office Action rejects Claim 1 and contends that the limitations of Claim 1 are disclosed by *Srinivasan* and *Gadbois*. However, neither *Srinivasan* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest “defining attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class.” The Office Action contends that *Srinivasan* discloses this limitation, but the Office Action is incorrect. *Srinivasan* is directed to representing directory attributes in a relational database system. See *Srinivasan*, Column 4, lines 34-37. However, there is no suggestion that the attribute types correspond to a specific object class. In fact, *Srinivasan* teaches a completely different approach stating: “objects from different object classes may contain the same attribute type.” See *Srinivasan*, Column 10, lines 56-57. For example, Figure 1 of *Srinivasan* illustrates two different object classes: 1) a “Department” object class; and 2) a “Person” object class. Both the “Department” object class and the “Person” object class of *Srinivasan* include the same attribute type “State,” and therefore *Srinivasan* does not define attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class, as required by Claim 1.

Moreover, even assuming for the sake of argument only that *Srinivasan* discloses this limitation, *Srinivasan* would still fail to teach, disclose, or suggest “generating an index based on the specific attribute types,” as recited in Claim 1. The Office Action relies upon the catalog tables of *Srinivasan* in rejecting this limitation. See *Office Action*, Page 5. As disclosed in *Srinivasan*, the catalog tables are based on *attribute values* and “provide efficient searches for objects having particular attribute values.” See *Srinivasan*, Column 9, lines 1-11. However, *Srinivasan* does not teach, disclose, or suggest generating an index based on the specific *attribute types*, as required by Claim 1. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that neither *Srinivasan* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest the limitations of Claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Similar to Claim 1, Claim 7 includes limitations related to “defining attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class” and “generating an index based on the specific attribute types.” For at least those reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully contend that that neither *Srinivasan* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in

combination, disclose, teach, or suggest the limitations of Claim 7. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Claims 2-6 and 8-12 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 1 or 7. For at least the reasons above, Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are patentably distinguishable from *Srinivasan* and *Gadbois*.

**CONCLUSION**

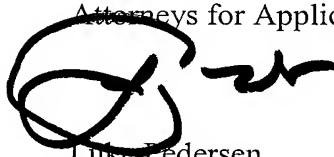
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending Claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the **\$810.00 RCE fee**, and to the extent necessary, charge any additional required fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Pedersen', written over a circular stamp or mark.

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10/23/07

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